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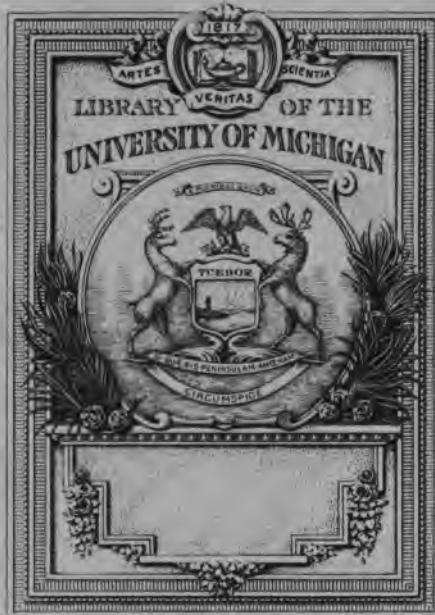
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Bristol memoranda



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# BRISTOL MEMORANDA

Collected  
and arranged by  
T. W. WILLIAMS



J. W. Arrowsmith, Publisher, Bristol  
1908



**BRISTOL MEMORANDA.**



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## Bristol Memoranda.

IN working through the Historical MSS. Commission Reports and the Selden Society's volumes for another purpose a number of references to Bristol were met with ; these have been extracted as likely to prove of use and interest to the student of the early history of the city.

The various subjects have been collocated and set out, as nearly as may be, in chronological order.

A rough summary of the contents is given :—

- A.** References to the Jews in Bristol ; disputes as to tolls ; records of gifts to churches and other documents giving the names of old Bristol families and officials ; local government ; distinguished visitors to the wells.
- B.** Regulations, &c., as to the forwarding of troops to Ireland ; victualling them ; details given of times taken by post to London.
- C.** Armada—attacks at sea.
- D.** Sir Wm. Sharington and the Bristol Mint.
- E.** Conveyances, &c., of property.
- F.** Clergy, conventicles, &c.
- G.** Mercantile and shipping.
- H.** The castle ; siege of Bristol ; local mining.
- K.** Relief of poor.
- L.** Chatterton.

[To avoid misapprehension, it should be observed that the references indented in blacker type in the left-hand side of the quotations are to the books from which the quotations themselves are respectively taken. The earlier volumes of the Historical MSS. Commission Reports are numbered ; the Salisbury MSS. and volumes issued since 1899 are either under the names of the owners or some descriptive title.]



## BRISTOL.

**Selden Soc.,** In 1210 John caused the entire Jewish community throughout the kingdom to be arrested A  
**XV.** and collected at Bristol, where on All Saints' Day (1st Nov.) it was rated for talliage at  
**Select Pleas of the Jewish Exchequer,** 66,000 marks.  
**p. xxiv.**

**Selden Soc.,** In 1275 Edward I. caused the Jews of Gloucester to go to Bristol to dwell and abide there thereafter. XV., 85.

**Selden Soc.,** In 1282 Aaron of Ireland, Jew, came to the shop of Robert of Arras, goldsmith, and A  
**XV., 120.** offered him a plate of silver for sale before the eyes of many Xians who were present in the same place; in whose presence the said Robert received the sd plate from the said Jew, and when he had weighed it, charged the said Jew, that the said plate was fused from coin-chippings, and when the sd Jew heard this, he snatched the said plate from the hands of the said Robert, and ran off with it to the bridge over the water which is called Avon, and threw the said plate into the water, being followed by many Christians, who saw what he did; and by reason of the concourse and the general clamour the case came to the Constable's notice, and for that cause he arrested the Jew and detained him in prison, . . . Ultimately he made fine with our Lord the King for release of suit.

**H.M.C.R.** Memorandum that on Sunday before St. A  
**MSS. of the** Andrew 1250 William de Beaumont provost of **Dean and Bristol** gave back to H. subdean of Wells one **Chapter of** halfpenny taken of Walter son of the late Simon **Wells, I. 1.** de Heanton his man for toll for a fish sold there, **Liber Albus I.** and to John de Derham three farthings taken of three men for wheat &c. sold there; and this was done towards Avene bridge before the sold of William the

goldsmith in the presence of . . . clerk of the toll-house, who read the king's charter before the sd. W. de Beaumont in the street, by these tokens, that the said W. changed a penny with W. the goldsmith for four farthings whereof he handed three to the said John, and the bell was ringing for vespers. And, W. de Beaumont added, after hearing the charter read, that he knew the canon's men should be quit of toll, and if any had to pay it was for want of an oath that they were their villeins. Next day this was repeated in the toll-house by the sub-dean, and after by W. de Beaumont the clerk mayor of the town and several burgesses, and the charter read by Jordan the clerk ; whereup the sub-dean and the said John by leave of the mayor &c., withdrew with their toll repaid.

[NOTE.—The names of mayor and provost do not agree with Ricart's *Kalendar* (*Camden Society*).]

1 8.

**H.M.C.R.** Grant and bond of the Master and brethren  
I., 88. of St. John's hospital Bristol, to maintain the  
chapel of the Holy Ghost in the churchyard

of St. Mary of Radcliffe, built by Master Henry Tessun formerly precentor of Wells, canon of Salisbury of the prebend of Bedmynstre, when archdeacon of Bath, who by will appointed that the office of the dead should be therein performed for ever. In recompence for which the executors of the said precentor have given them 63 marks to purchase a perpetual rent towards the repair of their house, the receipt whereof is acknowledged, and in accordance with his will have assigned to them a rent with the appurtenances by the churchyard of Radcliffe which he purchased of Peter son and heir of Peter the clerk of Bristol for 20 marks, and a rent which he purchased of John Thurbern near the said churchyard, saving the ancient rent of the rector and church of Radcliffe from the said lands and messuages, and have rendered to them all charters &c. Three copies of this instrument, one remaining in the said hospital, a second in the treasury of Wells, and the third in the church of Bedminster. Sealed by brother Elyas, master of the said hospital, with his own and the common seal, and by the said archdeacon of Taunton, for the executors. Dated 1254. Sunday after the Epiphany.

**H.M.C.R.** Gift by Elias master of the hospital of  
**I., 72.** St. John Bristol and the brethren to the dean  
 and chapter of Wells of a rent of 30/- for ever,  
 payable, &c. Witnesses: Roger de Bercham mayor of  
 Bristol, John de Berwik, Reginald Golde provosts of  
 Bristol, John Gilbert, William de Berewik, Geoffrey le  
 Gape. [N.D.]

A 4.

**H.M.C.R.** Inspeximus and confirmation dated v. id.  
**I., 139.** April, 1257, by Edward dean of Wells and the  
 chapter of a statute made by William Bishop  
 of Bath and Wells, after hearing the abbot and convent  
 of St. Augustine Bristol and consulting with the chapters  
 of Bath and Wells, and considering the situation of the  
 said monastery in a port frequented by strangers and  
 foreigners, whereby he appropriated thereunto the  
 churches of Portbury, Tykeham, Clivedene, Were and  
 Poulet, saving the maintenance of vicars therein; dated  
 Wells, v. id. April, 1257.

A 5.

**H.M.C.R.** Inspeximus and assent by John de  
**I., 160.** Godeleye dean of Wells and the chapter,  
 dated iii. kal. August, 1306, to a charter of  
 Walter bishop of Bath and Wells appropriating to the  
 master, brethren and sisters of the hospital of St. John  
 Bristol and their successors, one portion of the church of  
 Bacwell of their patronage, by consent of Sir Thomas  
 atte Wynch of Bristol, rector thereof and the chapters of  
 Bath and Wells, saving due maintenance for the vicar,  
 to be presented by the said master and brethren; dated  
 Wells, vi. kal. August, 1306.

A 6.

**H.M.C.R.** Appropriation to the master and brethren  
**I., 185.** of the house of St. Mark Bristol by John  
 bishop of Bath and Wells, of the church of  
 Stokelond in his diocese, of their patronage, the said house  
 being in debt in consequence (*inter alia*) of an inundation  
 of the sea submerging a considerable part of their lands  
 by the sea side, saving &c.

A 7.

Dated London, iii. id. Feb., 1314.

**A 8.** Statute merchant by William Edeston  
**H.M.C.R.** (son and heir of Michael Edeston) merchant  
**I., 515.** of county Somerset to Sir Tryvet Knight of  
 the same county in £20 for merchandise bought, payable  
 at Christmas next. Dated Bristol, 25 August, 7 Richard II.  
 by the hand of Elias Spelly mayor and Thomas Colston  
 clerk ; in presence of William Wornuptre, Simon Olyver  
 and John Lynmor. [1384.]

**A 9.** Indenture made between John Tryvet  
**H.M.C.R.** Knight and John Vernay, being a lease by  
**I., 518.** the said John Tryvet to John Vernay of his  
 estate in the lands &c. of William de Edeston (son of  
 Michael de Edeston) so long as they remain in his hand  
 by reason of an execution and livery by extent, by  
 virtue of the King's writ, under a recognizance for £20  
 by the said William made before Elias Spelly mayor of  
 Bristol and John Colston clerk there (the said William  
 not having kept the day of payment) at a yearly rent of  
 4/- during the life of the said John Tryvet with warranty.  
 Witnesses : John Lyff, Philip Pym, John Marys, John  
 Bakeler, Richard Corwyll, Robert Tokyswyl. Dated  
 Monday after the Epiphany, 11 Richard II. [1388.]

**A 10.** 1394.—Beseecheth Edward Bokelond, that  
**Selden Soc.**, whereas the said Edward has been seised for  
**X., 12.** a long time of divers messuages, lands and  
**Select Cases** tenements in the town of Bristol, there came  
 in **Chancery.** one John Bount and John Bridgewater, with  
 a great number of people unknown, on the  
 Wednesday next after the feast of the Purification of our  
 Lady last past, and broke the doors of the said suppliant's  
 house where he was dwelling in the same town, with  
 hatchets and other instruments, while the said suppliant  
 was at London, and entered into the said house, and broke  
 his coffers in the said house, and took his charters, muni-  
 ments and other goods there found to the value of £100  
 and carried them away ; some of which evil-doers afore-  
 said are still living in the said house with strong hand and  
 in manner of war, against the will of the said suppliant ;  
 and some of the said evil-doers are lying in wait by the  
 road between here and Bristol to kill the said suppliant

in case he come to the said town of Bristol ; on account of which the said suppliant dare not go home to his own house for fear of death.

May it please your most gracious lordship to grant to the said suppliant a writ directed to the said John Bount, under a pain of £200, to be before you in the Chancery of our Lord the King on the Monday next after the feast of S. Edward the King, and another writ directed to the said John Bridgewater to be before you on the same day and under the same pain, to answer for their misdeeds and torts aforesaid : And this for God and in way of charity.

Mainpernors of Edward Bokeland for prosecuting his petition in the Chancery,

John Urban of Cornwall,  
John Lake of Berkshire.

Writ directed to John Bount, commanding his attendance before the King and his Council on the Monday before the feast of S. Edward, King and martyr, then next, under a penalty of £100. Dated, 24 Feb., 1394.

In 1411 the burgesses of Gloucester, supported by those of Bristol, petitioned the Crown against the inhabitants of Beaudely, of the county of Salop generally and of Wales. These persons, according to their petition, combined to force violently upon the merchants trafficking on the river Severn the hiring of "grosses bateux appellez Trowes" in place of raftes called "flotes," on wch such goods as timber and fuel had been hitherto laden. Tolls were also exacted by various persons on the river, and it was not until 1504 that these questions were in any way settled.

A 11.

**H.M.C.R.** Indenture of apprenticeship at Bristol of  
**Lord E.** James Matthur to John de Houpliness for  
**Talbot,** four years, with the conditions usually found  
**p. 384.** in like indentures of later date ; viz. that the apprentice shall not frequent taverns, nor gamble, nor commit fornication in his master's house nor marry ; the

A 12.

master shall instruct him in all the sciences and faculties which he uses, and provide food, clothes, and all other necessaries. Dated in the time of John Hawks, mayor of Bristol, Vigil of Pentecost, 8 Hen. VII. (1 June, 1493). Latt.

**A 13.** **H.M.C.R. XII., ix. 435.** 1500—1504.—It is ordeyned by the Law for the contynuance of the good rule and of the commyn welth of this towne of Gloucestre . . .

“ In primis that ther may be acconvenyent which\* made in the commyn markett place before the fest of Lammas next commyng for the punyssh them [sic] as well of wedded men as of prestes and other commyn qwenys, whether she be mannys wylf or single woman, as hit is usid in the worshipfull citie of London, and in the towne of Bristow.”

**H.M.C.R. XIV., viii. 183.** Reg. No. XIII. contains (*inter alia*) evidence Dean and agst Roger Waxmaker of Bristol, 7 May, 1541, Chapter of who “ dyd see god.” Worcester.

*The BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS to the PRIVY COUNCIL.*

**A 15.** **H.M.C.R. Marquis of Salisbury, I., 312.** 1564, Nov. 27.—Immediately on receipt of their Lordship's letters respecting the justices of the peace within his diocese communicated with Sir Morice Barckley, Sir Raff Hopton, and others, from whom he understands nothing “ but that everie justice in the sheire of Somerset doo diligently (as they saie) exequute their offyce.”

Has not much to say against any man except by report, wherewith he has not thought it good to trouble their Lordships.

Has heard very high commendations of Mr. John Carre,† late of Bristol, Mr. William Hill, of Taunton, and also of one John Sydenham, of Dulverton.

\* Hutch.

† The Carrs were a well-known Bristol family at this time.

Prays their Lordships to take order that every one that now is or hereafter shall be called to the office of a justice shall be compelled to take a solemn oath before such person or persons as their Lordships shall appoint.  
—London, 27 November, 1564.

H.M.C.R.

Marquis of 1579, July 30.—Reference to Mr. Chester,  
Salisbury, of Bristol.

II., 284.

A

W.M. ALTON to JOHN LEE.

H.M.C.R. 1597, July 4.—One William Colston served here in Bristol the office of searchership, and Salisbury, for misbehaviour is dismissed and his patent VII., 288. taken from him. It is the Queen's gift, and now in her hand. Colston bought the office of one Mr. Ley, which before served that office here, and gave for the same £300. Pleaseth you to deal with Sir Henry Ley, or yourself to beg the same of the Queen in my name, that I may have that grant as Colston had it, I will give you good payment, £300 for your pains. If you please, to deal therein you must do it forthwith for sundry this day is rid hence to be suitors to my Lord Treasurer for his good will for the office. I have done her Majesty very good service sundry times and never had any recompence. If need be (although no searcher ever gave sureties) I will do so.—Bristol, 4 July, 1597.

A

[Holograph.] Seal 1 p.

H.M.C.R.

Marquis of Letter from Mayor (John Hort) and Aldermen of Bristol to Sir Robt. Cecil, 1599,  
Salisbury, March 18.

X., 78.

A

H.M.C.R.

Marquis of Letter from Mayor (John Hopkins) to Lord  
Salisbury, Buckhurst, 1600, March.

X., 89.

Lady YONGE *to the LORD TREASURER.*

A 19.

H.M.C.R. 1598, June 18.—The natural care of a Marquis of grandmother, and the miserable condition of Salisbury, my son Strangwaires, his daughter's poor distressed orphans, who are detained from their VIII., 220. whole portions by Sir Henry Newton, enforceth me to trouble your Lordship with the petition herein enclosed.—From Bristowe, the 18th June, 1598. Signed.

Sir ROBERT SYDNEY *to Sir ROBT. CECIL.*

A 20.

H.M.C.R. . . . Another reason I have is that my Marquis of Lord of Pembroke's weaknesses increase, for Salisbury, wch he is now on his way towards a water at IX., 142. Bristow [26th April, 1599].

## Earl DE LA WARR. 1620, March 6.

A 21.

H.M.C.R. Copy of Council Order about Bristol IV., 1. 815. Castle, on complaint of the Mayor and Commonalty that Sir John Stafford, the Keeper of the Castle, did not reside there, but left an unworthy deputy, and that about 240 people of lewd life and conversation lived there. (There is a list of 273 persons.)

A 22.

H.M.C.R. From "A Description of Raglan Castle, XII., ix. 3. copied from an old manuscript which was written soon after the destruction of the Castle by the Rebel Army in the year 1646."

"The castle was surrendered to Sir Thomas Fairfax the 19th of August 1646. Afterwards the woods in the three parks were destroyed, the lead and timber were carried to Monmouth, thence by water to rebuild Bristol Bridge after the last fire."

*The MARCHIONESS OF WORCESTER to the MARQUIS.*

A 23.

H.M.C.R. 1678, Dec. 14.— . . . I was the XII., ix. 77. willinger to send that I might let your friends know that Rumsey, town-clarke of Bristol, was gone privately to Chepstow by water, I suppose to assist the B.

DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, Fo. 40. 1688, Dec. 4, London.

*A Newsletter to LEVESON GOWER.*

**H.M.C.R.** The Princes of Orange and Denmark  
**V., i. 198.** stayed at the Earl of Bristol's till Friday last,  
 and went thence to Bruton, the Lord Fitzharding's house, and designed for Bristol, which city was delivered to the Earl of Shrewsbury, who is made governor of it by the Prince of Orange; he with 200 horse and 500 foot entered the place the 1st instant, and at the Tolsey was met by the mayor and aldermen, to whom he delivered a letter from the Prince, in which he assured them that he was come for the defence of the Protestant religion, their liberties, and properties; and therefore having great confidence in their fidelity he had sent no more soldiers, being unwilling to burden them; while this letter and the Prince's declaration were reading, the soldiers were quartered, the people generally receiving them very well.

A 2

J. R. PINE COFFIN, Esqre. 29 August, 1691.

Mr. LAPTHORNE to Mr. R. COFFIN.

**H.M.C.R.** 29 August, 1691.—“Wee are informed  
**V., i. 382.** that Sir Jo. Knight, the Mayor of Bristol, and others, should send a message to Exeter to the Judges at the Assizes, to let them know that if they came to Bristol that season, they could not be enterteyned at the charges of the citty; and that the Judges returned answer that, as to theyr enterteynment, they would not dispute it, but were resolved according to course to come there and doe justice.”

A 3

DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH.

**H.M.C.R.** 1709, May 21, Bristol.  
**VIII., i. 46.** The Mayor of Bristol and others to the Lord Sunderland. Account of 400 persons from Kingswood coming under pretence of demanding bread and committing great disorders.

A

## CHARLES DALRYMPLE, Esqre.

A 27.

**H.M.C.R.** A volume of anecdotes, facetae, &c.,  
**IV., 532.** collected by Lord Hailes.

Of David Hume his Lordship notes: "Dr. Tucker, Dean of Gloucester, told me that David Hume became acquainted at Bristol with Morgan, author of some things against Christianity, but qu . . . He confirmed what I had formerly heard that the Master of D. H. at Bristol quarreled with him for correcting errors in the style of his letters. His Master dealt in Sugar." [1734.]

## Sir HERCULES LANGRISHE to CHARLEMONT. [c. 1790].

A 28.

**H.M.C.R.** The wells are situated about two miles **XIII., viii. 399.** down the river from Bristol (a large commercial **James, 1st** city remarkable for affording and manufac-  
**Earl of** turing the best woollen night-caps in the **Charlemon**, world) subject to all the incommodations which

**46.** may be expected in a little, wet, dirty, much frequented village, for much is it frequented at this season. The sick come here in search of health; the sound, in pursuit of pleasure; the idle, to meet idleness; the clergy, to be absent from their duty; the great, because it is the fashion; and the little, because the great come.

There are no cards played here; nor are there long rooms for the accommodation of the ladies. Though the company at present is very brilliant, consisting of an Irish earl and his lady (whose taste can make anything elegant, and whose society any place happy), an English lord of the bedchamber (whose picture your lordship may have seen in Dublin), lady Betty Germaine, General Sinclair, sir John Cope, the bishop of Sodor and Man, Mr. Sheridan, Mrs. Bettesworth, nine Irish bishops, twelve deans, and three archdeacons without their wives.

## Sir WARHAME SENTLEGER to Sir Wm. CECIL.

B 1.

**H.M.C.R.** 1569, July 5.—Offers his services to the **Marquis of** Queen's Majesty against "her unnaturall **Salisbury**, rebels and traitors in Munster," who are the **I., 415.** strongest and most united that have been there for 200 years. Petitions her Majesty to be

allowed to raise a certain number of troops whom he promises to have at Bristol or Ilfracome ready to embark by the end of the month and so to take James Fitz Morris unawares.—From Southwark, 5 July, 1569.

Alderman RICHARD MARTIN *to* Lord BURGHLEY.

**H.M.C.R.** With regard to the money to be paid to **Marquis of** [John] Bland [Surveyor of Victuals] at Bristol **Salisbury**, will endeavour to do it through merchants, **II.**, 533. otherwise the money must be sent in gold or other coin by carrier, her Majesty standing charged with the cost of carriage, and also the adventure thereof in sending it thither.—20 Nov., 1582.

B 2

Other references in 1578—1582 to the sending of troops to Ireland.

STEPHEN LYNCHE *to* Sir ROBERT CECIL.

**H.M.C.R.** 1598, Aug. 10.—Your father in March last **Marquis of** granted licence to me for the conveying hence **Salisbury**, or out of any other port 30 tuns of beer for the **VIII.**, 300. provision of her Highness' garrisons in Galway under the command of Sir Coniers Clifford. At Bristol, where I have embarked the said beer, for want of a convenient vessel to carry the provision, the necessity being such, I was driven to leave behind 10 tuns of the said beer, and being taken at sea by a Briton of Crosvicke on the 28th April last, was robbed of the more part of the said provision and other goods, to the value of £500. I pray you to certify the officers of the port of Bristol hereof, requiring them to licence me not to carry away the said 10 tuns of beer without custom, but also, in that the garrisons are to lie at Galway within this month, the winter time drawing near, 20 tuns more of beer and 50 or 60 quarters of malt in like sort for their provision, I entering into sureties for the taking of it thither.

B 3

London, August 10th, 1598.

[Holograph.]

RICE JONES (*Mayor of Bristol*) to Sir ROBT. CECIL.

**B 4.** **H.M.C.R.** 1600, June 24.—Touchinge Mr. Woode, the Marquis of victualler for her Majesty's forces in Munster. **Salisbury,** Endorsed: "Bristol at 9 of the clock in **X., 195.** the morning 24 of June: at Hounslow half past 12 of the clock in the night the 24th June."

**B 5.** **H.M.C.R.** **Marquis of** Letter from Mayor (John Hopkins) to the **Salisbury, Council, 1600, Oct. 14.** **X., 350.**

JNO. HOPKENES (*Mayor*) to Sir ROBERT CECIL.

**B 6.** **H.M.C.R.** 1601, June 18.—With a packet of letters **Marquis of** received this day from Cork. John Saunders **Salisbury,** of Bristol, has caused to stay with his bark at **XI., 236.** Cork on purpose to receive the packet, and commanded to depart presently, leaving his merchant's goods behind him, to his damage: and craves reward.

Bristol, 18 June, 1601.

Signed. Endorsed: "With a packet from the Lord President of Munster." On the back: "Haste, haste, poste haste from the Mayor of bristol the 18th June at tenn of the clocke in the morninge. Marchfeld at haliffe past 1 of the Cloke in the afternone. At Malbrowghte at three of the clocke. At Newbere paste 6 of the cloke in the eninge. At Reading at 9 of the cloke in the nighte. At Maydenhead hafe an hower past 11 in the nighte. Hownslo at . . . mor . . ." (torn off).

JNO. HOPKENES (*Mayor of Bristol*) to Sir ROBERT CECIL.

**B 7.** **H.M.C.R.** 1601, Sep. 16.—I enclose a packet from the **Marquis of** Lord President of Munster which arrived here **Salisbury,** at 8 o'clock this evenng and also a letter for **XI., 392.** the Lord Treasurer. They were brought by Sir Charles Manners.

Bristol, this 16th of September, 1601.

Signed. Postal times noted: From Bristol, 16 Sept., 9 p.m., Marshfield 10.45, Calne 4 a.m. (17th), Marlborough 7.15, Newbury 10.15. Seals.

*Letter from WILLIAM VAWER (Mayor of Bristol) to Sir  
ROBT. CECIL. 1601, Nov. 3.*

**H.M.C.R.** 1601, Nov. 3.—I have caused to be shipped  
**Marquis of** the whole numbers of foot here, and also  
**Salisbury,** fourscore and eleven horse, all of which are  
**XI., 470.** set to sea yesterday morning, together with  
the Earl of Thomont and his company; who I hope will  
be in Ireland this day, the wind having served good for  
their passage, and this day doth another ship depart with  
20 horse more, and the residue shall be sent away as they  
come here and are ready.—At Bristol this 3 day of  
November, 1601.

B 8

[Holograph.] Seal.

1601, Nov. 3.—(DONOGH O'BRIAN) EARL OF THOMOND to  
Sir ROBERT CECIL.

**H.M.C.R.** The wind coming up easterly the 30th of  
**Marquis of** October, I spake to the Mayor and Chamber-  
**Salisbury,** lain of Bristol to have shipping ready to put  
**XI., 471.** to sea, having ever since my coming given  
them express warning that all things might be in a readiness  
upon the first wind, so as there might be no opportunity  
of wind or weather lost; which they assured me of  
but yet I could get no shipping ready, or so much victuals as  
would serve the mariners until the 2nd of November. I  
coming the night before to Hunger road, thinking to have  
found all things ready according to their promise, about  
six of the clock the 2 of November in the morning we  
set sail and made for the coast of Ireland all that day  
and the next night; and being ready to seize upon the  
said coast, the wind came so contrary with so great a  
storm at south and south southwest as the like mariners  
have seldom seen. For my part I never saw a greater,  
and did never think to set foot on land again, so as with  
much ado we covered the haven of Milford the third of  
this month. We hope that the first 18 hours of fair  
wind and weather will send us to Cork, or 12 hours to  
Waterford. We are so much scanted and so ill provided  
of victuals from Bristol as I am fain to send to the justices

B 8

of the peace and towns hereabouts to supply our wants.— Milford, the third of November, at four of the clock in the afternoon, 1601.

[Holograph.] Seal.

**707b. *The Spanish Armada.***

**C 1.** **H.M.C.R.** 1588, July.—“ The names and number of **Marquis of** the ships that served agst the Spanish Fleet, **Salisbury,** and recd pay from her Majesty, anno 1588.” **III., 340.**

- 77. *Mynion* of Bristol.
- 78. *Unicorn* of Bristol.
- 79. *Handmaid* of Bristol.
- 80. *Ayd* of Bristol.

**MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF BRISTOL to the  
LORDS OF THE COUNCIL.**

**C 2.** **H.M.C.R.** 1591, June 23.—Have received their **Marquis of** Lordships' letter of the 17th inst., requiring **Salisbury,** them to do their endeavour for the setting **IV., 119.** forth of one ship and a pinnace to attend her Majesty's ships at the islands of the Azores before the 20th August, so as the ship be not under 100 tons but rather above. They have taken a view of such shipping as are now in this port and find that there are not any ships answerable to the tenour of their lordships' letter, save such as are stayed by the Lord Admiral's commandment ; but there are there three or four ships of about 70 or 80 tons ready to go forth for reprisal, and yet these are unwilling to attend to this service but rather to go forth at their liberty. If these be not stayed by their honours' directions, the service required cannot by any means be accomplished, for that the said shipping have taken up such mariners in the counties of Somerset and Gloucester as are now at home. Moreover, also at this instant there is come hither one Thomas Manley with a commission from their Lordships to press 80 mariners in this city and the county

of Somerset. They pray further directions.—Bristol,  
23 June, 1591.

Signed: WILLIAM HOPKINS, Mayor; JOHN BROWN,  
Alderman; PHILLIP Langley, Alderman;  
THOMAS ALDWORTH, Alderman; THOMAS  
COLSTON, Alderman; RICHARD COLE,  
Alderman; WILLIAM HICKES, Alderman;  
JOHN BARNES, Alderman.

Bristol Channel so-called in a letter of Benedick Harvey  
dated 2 April, 1595 (V. 164).

Spurway, a shipowner of Bristol; Wescot, the master  
of his ship, a barque (V. 322).

Customs in 1595.

Sept. 29.

Bristol { JOHN ANDREWES } 1533—11—9.  
JOHN DOWLLE

WILLIAM PARPHEY (*Mayor*) and the ALDERMEN  
OF BRISTOL to Lord BURGHLEY.

H.M.C.R. 1596, July 22.—As to the ships set forth from  
Marquis of this port to attend her Majesty's navy royal  
Salisbury, in this last service, we advertise you that there  
VI., 278. have been three ships set forth from hence, viz.  
the *Unicorn*, rated to us by the owners thereof in 250 tons,  
the *Pleasure* in 250 tons, the *Exchange* in 200 tons, victualled  
for five months, and manned from hence with one captain  
and 50 mariners in every ship: the charge whereof every  
way, in victualling and furnishing them in warlike manner,  
already disbursed, amounted to £1,640 7s. 8d. as by the  
particular accounts may appear, over and besides the  
tonnage to the owners and the captains' and mariners'  
wages for five months, to be paid at the return of the said  
ships, amounting to £895. Towards all which charge we  
have received from other places £336 12s. od., viz. from  
Gloucester £177, Bridgwater £50, Worcester £40, Shrews-  
bury £40, and Cardiff £29 11s. od., and are unable, without  
further contribution, to satisfy the residue; whereof we  
beseech you to have that favourable consideration as the  
poor estate of this city may be relieved in this heavy  
burden.—At Bristol, this 22nd of July, 1596.

Earl DE LA WARR. 1636, July 13.

4.

Our fleet is in the Downs ; the French H.M.C.R. fleet is in the West Country, where the Turks IV., i. 291. have lately taken three small ships of ours, and landed within 12 miles of Bristol, and carried away many poor Xtian men, women, and children as the King was informed by Petition on Sunday last . . . Great outrages by the Turks from the Lizard to Dartmouth ; they carried many into Slavery and took many barks laden with commodities.

1.

H.M.C.R. 1548-9, Jany. 6th.—Reporting that according to his Grace's commandment they had Marquis of Salisbury, hastened to Bristol, calling on the way at I., 58. Sir Wm. Sharington's house at Laycock, where, under Lady Sharington's supervision, they collected all the writings, money, plate and jewels they could find and sealed them up in chests, leaving four servants in charge thereof, and have now begun to view the Mint there, and also to examine the officers, from whom they learn that one Mr. Paget, a Teller in the Mint, arrived at Bristol from London on Wednesday last, and took all Sir Wm. Sharington's writings away with him, calling a'so at Laycock on his way back to London. Suggest that it would not be amiss to call the said Mr. Paget and examine him, for he knoweth much. Have thought it good to continue the work at the Mint so as to avoid suspicion, and also so as to have the "Moneyers" ready when called upon.—From the King's Majesty's Castle of Bristol, the 6th of January, 1548.

255. THOS. DOWRISHE to Sir Wm. SHARINGTON.

2.

H.M.C.R. 1548-9, Jany. 15 (?).—Has received from Marquis of Salisbury, I., 59. Clowde his letter of the 5th inst., an also an ingot of silver weighing 40 lbs. 11 oz., better 16 dwts, with two bags of light money containing £200. Has further received from Mr. Comptroller his letter of the 9th inst., all things mentioned in which shall be accomplished with celerity and with all possible diligence.

He shall receive towards it at once £3,000, that is to say, £1,000 from Clowde and £2,000 from Corry. In addition, he shall receive from the said Corry "in fayre testornes" £36, and "in fayre grotes" £36.

Pray him if he has any store of silver in his hands to send it as shortly as possible, for by the time his request is complied with there will be small store left to keep the men working; and besides, thinks it best that he should be sending it down so that it may be thought that the money now required at his hands is made of the same, otherwise it may happen to be suspected that more money hath been made than doth appear by the indentures and books of accounts.

Remembering the communication had between them, everything on his part is ended accordingly. The indentures and all other books of account are perfect, and truly cast and examined, so as to be ready when called upon.

Wishes him to get possession of an abstract remaining in the hands of Mr. Knight's brother for a certain reason. Is much troubled because in his letter of the 5th inst. Sharginton accuses him of having disclosed a letter sent to him by Sharginton "to warn his hostess." Protests that no one had sight of it but only she for whom it was intended.

Subscribed: "Yours in all that I may.—T. D."

P.S.—Begs him to be so good to his poor Chaplain, "Sir Browne," as to speak a good word for him to help him to a vacant room in the College of Windsor.

THOMAS DOWRISHE (*Deputy of the Mint at Bristol*) to  
Sir Wm. SHARINGTON.

**H.M.C.R.** [1548-9], Jan. 24. — According to his  
**Marquis of** promise, has sent an abstract and certificate of  
**Salisbury,** what silver has been molten, wrought and  
**I., 61.** brought into ready money, from the beginning  
of this Mint unto the last day of the present  
month of January. Has caused the same to be made up

**D 3.**

to the end of the month for reasons he cannot write here, yet Sharginton's profit shall be the more as he will understand. By the same abstract he will perceive what money is due unto the King, all things allowed and deducted. Sends also an Indenture between himself and Sharginton for the signature of the latter. Has also sent two copies of the Rules and Ordinances to be observed in the Mint for Sharginton's approval, one of which is to be signed and returned to him. Has communed with his bed-fellow concerning the matter Sharginton wots of, and doubts not that everything shall be to his expectation and pleasure.

**271. *The Confession of Sir Wm. SHARINGTON, the Master of the Mint at Bristol.***

**D 4.**

**H.M.C.R.** 1548-9, Jany. 29.—Stating that, thinking himself to be undone by the frequent melting of the badly-made money, he had withheld certain sums from his books in every month, and had burnt the originals from which the indentures were made up, wherein he confesses his great “decept and lewdeness.”

Touching the Lord Admiral, has heard him say that the King's daughters should be married within the Realm, and that he thought it was not the late King's will that one man should have both the government of the King and of the Realm. Has also known him to be very desirous of stewardship, and to entertain gentlemen, and has heard him say that he would never consent that the King should be kept as a ward till the age of 18. Has also heard him say that he disliked it in the Lord Protector that he took away the Queen's jewels, and that he (the Lord Admiral) had given the King money two or three times.

[The original confession in his own hand.]

Endorsed: “29th Jany. Sharginton's Confession:”

279. *Examination of Sir W. SHARINGTON.*

**H.M.C.R.** 1548-9, Jany. — The interrogatories administered to Sir Wm. Sharington, the Master of the Mint at Bristol, concerning the coining of money there, with the answers thereto in Sharington's own hand. D  
**Marquis of**  
**Salisbury,**  
**I., 66.**

280. *Interrogatories to be Administered to ROGER WIGMORE.*

**H.M.C.R.** 1548-9, Jany. — Concerning the management of His Majesty's Mint at Bristol. D  
**Marquis of**  
**Salisbury,**  
**I., 66.** [The answers are not given.]

283. *The Examination of Sir Wm. SHARINGTON.*

**H.M.C.R.** 1548-9, Feby. 4.—The examinee says that about Christmas week last he had been at Canterbury, and suspecting that some D  
**Marquis of**  
**Salisbury,** trouble might come to him, he went to the Lord  
**I., 67.** Admiral, and told him that he had taken more of the King's money than he ought to do, and that he could not justify his doing thereof if it was known. However, he told him that he had so ordered it that he thought no man might accuse him. He states also that he had received sums from the Lord Admiral amounting to £2,300 sterling, and that he had laid out for the Lord Admiral in building, &c., £5,100; so that the Lord Admiral owed him at that time £2,800.

He nevertheless requested the Lord Admiral that he (Sharington) might give him a bill confessing debt to the amount of £2,000; so that, if any trouble should ensue to examinee, it might appear that he was in the debt of the Lord Admiral, to which the Lord Admiral agreed, and also promised to aid him in any trouble that might befall him.

As to who made the books or indentures that were falsified and by whose counsel or device it was done, he says that the paper book was written by James Paget or

John Beldon, and the monthly indentures either by John Beldon or George Knight, the Clerk of the Mint. But that to the putting in or putting out no man was privy but himself, for he caused them to write as he bade them. That Duns would not receive the whole account which examinate brought on paper, but caused his (Duns') man to write it on parchment, which examinate set his hand to, and sent it down by Paget to be subscribed by the other vouchees at Bristol.

Howbeit he thinks that neither Duns nor his man were privy to any fraud in that or any other account of his.

(Signed)

W. SHARINGTON.

Endorsed: "4th Feby., Sir W. Sharington, Copy of preceding."

**286. *The Confession of JENKIN DEE.***

8. H.M.C.R. 1548-9, Feby. 8.—Jenkin Dee, shoemaker, Marquis of of Bristol, examined touching certain words Salisbury, addressed to him by the wife of one Baron, I., 68. sometime an officer in this (Bristol) Mint, answereth that she said in Welsh, which deponent understands, that her husband was he that brought all them of the Mint first to knowledge whereof they were ignorant, and now that they had learned of him was thrust out of office, but that she trusted he would be reinstated by the King, and would prove as good a man as any of them.

[Copy of preceding.]

**288. *Confession of Sir WILLIAM SHARINGTON,  
Vice-Treasurer of the Bristol Mint.***

9. H.M.C.R. 1548-9, Feby. 11.—That about a fort-night before Christmas he delivered his Salisbury, "specialities" to Sir William Woodhouse, to I., 68. keep for him. When last at Bristol he commanded Dowrishe to keep money out of the way. Paget knew altogether of his doings, and Paget and Dowrishe were

privy to the striking out of the books ; they had each £40 a year, and meat and drink for themselves and wives. He owed Paget £500 and 1,000 marks (and Sir John Gats, Sir Miles Partrich, Lady Suffolk, Mr. Herbert, and Mr. Hoby owed him together £5,300 [crossed out]).

(Signed)

W. SHARINGTON.

Endorsed : " Feby. 11th, W. Sharington."

At the end of the paper a note in the same hand runs :—  
" He knoweth that the Lord Admiral doth not love my L [ord] P [rotector] because of my Lady of Somerset, whom he did know did not love him, and therefore my L [ord] P [rotector] loved him the worse."

[Copy.]

### 289. WILLIAM WEVER.

**H.M.C.R.** 1548-9, Feby. 13. The examination of  
**Marquis of** William Wever concerning the coining of  
**Salisbury,** testoons after the same was prohibited, and  
**I., 68.** other dealings in connexion with the Mint at  
Bristol.

D 1

Signed :—" By me WYLLYAM NEVER."

[1st page, Copy of preceding.]

### *Letter from the COUNCIL OF KING EDWARD VI.*

**H.M.C.R.** After our hartie commendacions. Foras-  
**Dean and** moche as the Kynges Maiestie mynte of  
**Chapter of** Brystowe is presently destitute of Bullion,  
**Salisbury** and in that your Cathedrall Churche there is  
[1901], p. 371. certein plate amountyng to the somme of twoo  
thowsande merkes, consideryng the nerenes to the mynte  
and present necessitie it might stande the Kynges  
highnes in good stede. Therefore these are to desyre  
you to delyver the said plate uppon a byll of Robert  
Recordes hande to his highnes vse and we shall geve  
orde that ye shall be repayed with thanckes. The  
shortnes of the tyme and importaunce of the mattier  
requyreth expedicion.

D 1

And therefore we eftstones pray you to satisfie our  
desyre in this behalfe. And thus fair you hartily well.

From Westminster the Last of July, 1549.

Your loving Frendes,

E. Somersett.	W. Seynt John.
Anthony Wynkefeeld.	William Peter.

To our good Lorde the busshopp of Salisbury and to  
our Loving frendes the Dean and Chapiter there.

RICHARD HADSOR *to* Sir ROBERT CECIL.

D 12.

**H.M.C.R.** Jany. 28, 1600-1.—I have joined lately  
**Marquis of** with Captain Edward Fitzgerald in preferring  
**Salisbury,** of a project unto you touching the alliance and  
**XI., 23.** descents of the mere Irish ; containing like-  
wise some reasons for the not coining of a  
piece of base money called a white groat now current in  
Ireland. And if her Majesty shall think fit to give order  
for the coining of base money for the service of Ireland,  
and that there shall be exchange received by merchants  
and such as shall be allowed to disburse money here, in  
my opinion it is necessary to insert in her Majesty's  
proclamation for the making current of the base money  
there, that the same shall be received for all commodities  
and payments upon any contract made after the proclama-  
tion, giving such a convenient time as the Council thinks  
fit for the payment of such sums of money as are to be  
paid upon contracts and bonds made before the publish-  
ing of her Majesty's proclamation in current money of  
England and that order may taken for giving exchange  
at Bristol, Chester and London to merchants and such as  
shall be allowed to exchange money here, for that many  
of that country merchants shall have no occasion to come  
to London but only to Bristol or Chester and thereabouts ;  
and the treasurer at wars of that country his paymasters  
resident in all the chief towns and ports there may upon  
fit occasions receive the base money to be paid by exchange  
in one of the said three cities here, which will serve all the  
merchants and people of that kingdom conveniently.  
And if her Majesty will be pleased to take eight pence in

the pound for exchange, as Mr. Cutts and other merchants of London do receive, it will defray the charges of the ministers to be appointed for the exchange of the same base money.

28 January, 1600.

[Holograph.]

EARL OF PORTSMOUTH. 1717, Nov. 23.

**H.M.C.R.** (g) An account of the gold and silver D 18  
**VIII.**, i. 74. moneys coyned yearly at the Mint within the Tower of London for the years 1659 to Christmas, 1715. At the foot of the account this note:—"The silver coined in all the five country Mints in the year 1697 and 1698 amounted to £1,801,420 17s. 4d., viz., at York £308,621 13s. 8d., at Bristol £458,078 6s. 4d., at Exeter £459,072 10s. 8d., at Chester £316,840 6s. 8d., at Norwich £258,808."

Also duplicate of the same account.

**H.M.C.R.** 1579, Apr. 3.—Docquet of bills that have E 1.  
**Marquis of** passed the Great Seal. 21 Eliz.

**Salisbury,** Lease to Anthony Lowe, Esq., of messes., II.  
**II., 248.** &c., in the cities of London and Bristol.

WILLIAM ELLYS (*Mayor*) and the ALDERMEN OF BRISTOL  
*to* Sir ROBERT CECIL.

**H.M.C.R.** 1599, April 23.—We have received your E 2.  
**Marquis of** letter of the 9th instant, directing us to  
**Salisbury,** enquire into the complaint of one John Cycill  
**IX., 139.** against William Gibbes of this city, whereby he declares that Gibbes has got into his hands the deeds and evidences of certain lands in Bristol and elsewhere, and has prevailed on him to convey to the said Gibbes a messuage in Bristol below its value, and has fraudulently included in the conveyance all the lands belonging to the said Cycill. We have called John Gibbs, who is a citizen of good repute, before us; and he shows us a deed of bargain and sale made by the said Cycill of

a mesuage in Bristol and the title deed thereof made about nine years ago, whereupon the said Cycill has also suffered a fine and recovery, for which Gibbs says he has paid above £20 in money; and also that before he purchased it, he spent much trouble and above £40 in helping the said Cycill to obtain a deed of entail necessary to enable him to prove his title to the messuage and another to Wootton; and that seeing no way to recover this money from Cycill, he bought the messuage in Bristol from him, but to the messuage in Wootton he lays no claim at all, as appears by the deed.

Now as Cycill has no claim to the messuage in respect of his poverty and your Honour's commendation, we recommend Gibbs to give him £4 towards his relief, but this he utterly refuses to take.

Bristol, 23 April, 1599. Signed. Seal.

*House of Lords.*

E 3.

**H.M.C.R.** 1661.—Petition of George Adams. Prays **VII., i. 153** for relief against Edward Hollister and others with respect to the equity of redemption of certain houses and messuages in the City of Bristol, mortgaged many years since by William Came, petitioner's ancestor, the Court of Chancery refusing to give relief in point of redemption after so many years.

E 4.

**H.M.C.R.** 1673, Oct. 22.—Deed between William Crabb of **VII., i. 692.** Bristol, Esq., Alderman, Richard Crabb of **Rev. T. W.** Bristol, Merchant, Robert Foorde and two **Webb.** others, surviving feoffees of the lands, &c. of the Company of Weavers of Bristol, and James Shute and William Dowlinge, Masters of the said Company of the one part, and Edward Hitchins and Jerom Chirchey, Master of the Company of Clothworkers' of Bristol, and the Clerk and certain others, clothworkers, feoffees of the lands of the said clothworkers of the other part; whereby it was agreed that the linen cloth packs should thereafter, yearly, as long as the fair at St. Paul's tide had continuance within the parish of Temple, be sold during the said fair in the Clothworkers' Hall, and in the precincts thereof, &c. Signatures and Seals.

## 216. Dr. THOS. WILSON to Lord BURGHLEY.

F 1.

**H.M.C.R.** 1574, July 23.—Sends the letters which **Marquis of** Walter Tigurensis wrote to the Bp. of Ely, and **Salisbury**, would certainly come himself if he were not **II., 81.** prevented by ill-health, but from these letters his lordship may form his own judgment. Meanwhile will only say that the State is unfortunate in which nothing is permitted to anybody, but much more unfortunate that in which everything is permitted to all.

Cæsar, in the sixth book of his *Commentaries de Bello Gallico*, says that they who are considered to have most fitly administered the State have decreed, lest anyone should discuss matters of State otherwise than through the Council, that if anyone shall receive any intelligence or report from the provinces he shall lay it before the magistrate and not communicate it to any other person. But we permit ourselves every freedom, not only in matters of State but also in religious controversies, and anyone (please the Gods) constitutes himself a judge, whether the lowest plebeian, the greatest idiot, or the most foolish woman. But he will say no more, for ill-health stirs his bile.—From his couch, 23 July. Latin, 1 p. (Murdin, p. 276. *In extenso.*)

Dr. EDWARD GRANTE to Sir ROBERT CECIL,  
*Secretary.*

F 2.

**H.M.C.R.** 1596, Aug.—Petition to be recommended **Marquis of** by the Queen for the “small dignity of Bristol.” **Salisbury**, The Queen, “as her manner is to all her own **VI., 358.** Chaplains, deferreth long to promote them and heareth many objections against them,” that they may be the more glad of them and diligent. Understands that the Archbishop of Canterbury has written both to the Queen and to Cecil in his favour. Has served the Queen 26 years—21 in her school and 10 in Court. Signed, ED. GRANTE.

Endorsed: “Aug., 1596, Dr. Grante.”

ROBERT GULLIFORD *to the EARL OF ESSEX.*

F 8.

**H.M.C.R.** 1598-9, Feby. 12.—Three years past, being  
**Marquis of** received into the number of your household  
**Salisbury,** chaplains, since which time a discontentment  
**IX., 69.** in mind against my ministry fell out in some  
 of our city of Bristol; whereupon they ex-  
 hibiting articles to the lord Archbishop of Canterbury, by  
 your letters to the said lord Archbishop the matter was  
 privately heard and ended; and I was then restored to  
 my liberty of preaching in the Cathedral Church of Bristol,  
 but not in the city besides. The let hereof resteth only  
 or principally in the mayor and some aldermen. If there-  
 fore you would vouchsafe your letters to the said mayor  
 and aldermen, that I might with their love and liking  
 enjoy the former liberty of preaching among them, I  
 doubt not but they will work such effect as is desired of  
 the most there and wished for myself.—Bristol, 12 Fe-  
 bruary, 1598.

[Holograph.]

Col. MARTIN PYNDAR *and* HARCOURT LEIGHTON *to*  
 WILLIAM LENTHALL.

F 4.

**H.M.C.R.** 1645, Nov. 13, Bristol.—Wee heartily wish  
**XIII., 1. 310.** to see Major-Generall Skippon settled here,  
**Duke of** of whom there is great need, both for our  
**Portland.** furtherance in this work, and reall preservation  
 especially of the place which hitherto hath been—  
 since Collonel Fleetwood went hence—much  
 neglected.

We shall only adde that for want of able ministers,  
 Directories and orders for the use of the same, the people  
 here sitt in darkness and the collegiate men still chaunt  
 out the Common-Prayer booke in the wonted heighth and  
 in private parishes they think of noe other discipline, here  
 being hardly three sermons in the whole city, on the  
 Lord's-day, and but one upon the last fast, the late  
 holly-dayes being more solemnly observed then the  
 Sabath.

Signed. Seal.

MARQUIS OF WORCESTER *to the MARCHIONESS.*

**H.M.C.R.** 1681, Dec. 17 [London].—Has just written  
**XII., ix. 87.** by the King's command to thank the Mayor of  
 Bristol for so vigorously putting in execution  
 the laws against conventicles.

F

**H.M.C.R.** December 24, 1681. *News Letter.* From  
**XII., vii. 184.** Bristol we hear that Mr. Fo . nd a non-  
 conforming minister was taken out of his  
 pulpit while he was preaching and committed to prison,  
 and the meeting house doors shut, and some resistance  
 being made, which began by the women, about thirty men  
 and women were committed. Other meeting-houses in  
 the city were also closed.

F

**H.M.C.R.** 1682, August 17th, London. *News Letter.*  
**VII., i. 406.** Advice from Bristol says that there are  
**Sir F. Graham,** above 1,500 dissenters under prosecution in  
**Bart.** that city, and that by the next sessions, when  
 process can come forward against them, about 500 families  
 must desert their heresies, which many have done already  
 and meet together to hear preaching in the King's forest  
 adjacent.

F

**Selden Soc., II.** In 1532 in the case of *In re Gryflying* an  
**Select Pleas** Inhibition was granted to the Bristol Court,  
**of the** pending a transfer to the High Court,  
**Court of Admiralty,** “*propter inopiam jurisperitorum*,” at Bristol.  
**II., lxv.** The suit was against Kinsale ships for non-  
 payment by the Mayor of Kinsale of money  
 due on his bond.

G

**Selden Soc., Vol. VI.** 1541.—The following bill for money lent  
**Select Pleas** at Messina for the use of the *St. Michael* of  
**of the** Barnstaple was sued upon in this suit, and  
**Court of Admiralty,** a first decree was obtained against the ship  
**I., 92.** her freight and apparel. The title of the suit  
 (Thorne c. Vincent: *The St. Michael*) is as  
 follows (trans.): In the name of God Amen  
 Before you . . . (*in common form*) . . . the party of the  
 honest men, Nicholas Thorne and Thomas Ballarde,  
 merchants of the town of Bristol, against Laurence

G

Vincentt, of Langust in the kingdom of Portugal, intervening for the defence of the ship called the *St. Michael* of Barnstaple, &c.

Rev. T. W. WEBB.

4.

**H.M.C.R.** One sheet, 1555.—Petition of the Tuckers **VII.**, i. 683. (fullers), thirty-eight in number, to the Mayor and Aldermen of Bristol, against the encroachments of Shoremen. They refer to the entry of their privileges in the red paper book of the Guildhall. They state that they have been a craft from Henry IV.'s time.

Two sheets sewn together. Petition by the Tuckers to W. Popwell, the Mayor of Bristol, and the Aldermen. 1551, Nov. 30, 6 Ed. 6. Copy will of John Stevens of Bristol, tucker. He is to be buried in the Church yard of St. Thomas the Apostle.

6.

1582.—Part of a book of the ordinances of the Company (five leaves).

1597.—Agreement between the parishioners of the Temple of the one part, and the masters and seniors of the Weavers' Company of the other part ;—that the fair of linen cloth pack shall be henceforth holden and kept in the Tuckers' Hall, and the precinct of the same for ever, so long as the fair at Paul's tide shall have continuance in the Parish of the Temple.

(It was formerly seven years in the Tuckers' Hall and seven years in the Weavers' Hall.)

*Great Leet Book*, II., f. 731.

5.

**H.M.C.R.** Memorandum that the freemen and burges **X., iv., ii.,** of Bridgnorth in the County of Salop be **Corporation** dyscharged of all pontage and all other of **Bridgnorth** costomes within the city of Brystowe [Bristol]

**MSS.** Gloster [Gloucester], Worcester and Shresbury **i. 731, p. 427.** [Shrewsbury] and that every stranger to pay for every Towne ryte 3d. comyng throught the brugges beloinge to the said cyties, and that all straungers to pay for every tonne that shall pass throught this bruge to pay 3d. from hensforthe.—Feby. 4th, 14 Elizabeth.

*Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.*

G 7

**H.M.C.R.** A Letter dated 9th of October, 1593, and  
**V., 1. 580.** signed "Howard."—Charles, Lord Howard of Effingham, Lord High Admiral. He has been informed by Thomas Alworthe of Bristol, merchant, and his own servant Thomas Ware, that a "carvell" belonging to them, "was caryed away by some lewed maryners," and sold, without the owner's consent; and that those (some persons of those parts) who bought her,—"set her oute to the sea under commission of reprisall, naming her 'the Tobacco pipe,' in which voyage it was ther good hap to take an Indian prise, laden with hides and other merchandise." The persons to whom this Letter is addressed are requested to "arrest" the said carvell and prize, in favour of the rightful owners of the carvell. The Letter is addressed:—"To all Officers of the Admiralty, to all Maiors, Justices of Peace, Bayliffs, and other Her Majesty's officers to whom it may apertaine." Tobacco had been introduced into England by Sir W. Raleigh, only about eight years before this mention of the ship, "the Tobacco pipe."

*RICHARD CARMARDEN to Sir ROBERT CECIL.*

G 1

**H.M.C.R.** 1598, July 5.—The Barssanes have petitioned for the renewing for more years of their **Marquis of** **Salisbury**, former grant and for more number of calf **VIII., 248.** skins, and for an alteration in the words of renovation as they stood in their former letters patent. Bristol and West Chester, with their members, ship more than all the other ports in the realm besides. In their former licence there were words of exception for a licence granted before unto one of Bristol until the expiration thereof. This former grant for shipping at Bristol is now long since expired, but Mr. Attorney's Clerk would now except it again out of this her Majesty's grant to them now to pass to them. If they should not have that port with the rest, as they now have, they should be in worse case than before.—London, the 5th July, 1598.

[Holograph.] Seal.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON'S *Starch Patent*.

G 9.

**H.M.C.R.** 1598.—Draft orders of Council against the **Marquis of** infringement, addressed to the justices, &c., **Salisbury**, of Bristol and other places. “The effect of the **VIII., 565.** Council’s letters to the Mayor and Aldermen of Bristol.” Transactions between James Anthon, farmer to Sir John, and John Ellis. Two orders in Council summoning offenders against the patent, signed by Nottingham, Hunsdon, Buckhurst, Cecil and Fortescue.—1590.

G 10.

**Selden Soc., II., 187.** In 1598 the *Flying Dragon*, the property of William Walton, a merchant of Bristol, was condemned as forfeited to the Admiralty for piracy.

*Enclosures :—*

G 11.

**H.M.C.R.** (1) Examination of George Whittington **Marquis of** of Bristowe, merchant, taken before Thomas **Salisbury**, Chiverton, Esq., 26th August, 1599.

**IX., 329.** He has continued in Naunts and Crosicke 8 months past, by way of merchandise, and came from Crosicke on Sunday last in a little Brytton boat which he freighted with salt for St. Ives. On Tuesday following, they met with 6 great galleys a little off from Permarck, which struck sail and went in for Conquett. They were likewise seen by William Pytts of St. Ives coming from Burneathe.

## PHILLIP COOPER to Sir ROBERT CECIL.

G 12.

**H.M.C.R.** 1599, Nov. 14.—For a licence to transport **Marquis of** a cargo of wheat (to Spain) subsidy and **Salisbury**, custom freed, according to Cecil’s promise to **IX., 391.** him.—Bristol, 14 Nov., 1599.

[Holograph.]

JNO. HOPKENES (*Mayor*) and SAMUEL NORTON *to the*  
 COUNCIL.

H.M.C.R. 1601, May 3.—In accordance with the Marquis of Council's letters of Feby. 14, they have heard Salisbury, the complaint of the inhabitants of Bristol XI., 189. against Arthur Player for destroying and wasting timber fit for shipbuilding, and engrossing seacoal pits. They have set down such agreement therein as they hope the Council will not be further troubled in the matter.

G 18

3 May, 1601.

Signed as above. Endorsed: "Mayor of Bristol."

*House of Lords.*

(1628).—Petition of Richard Warner of H.M.C.R. Bristol (to H. C.). That the Letters Patent IV., 1. 19. wrongfully obtained from the late King by Benedict Webb for the monopoly of rape oil, may be speedily called in.

G 14

H.M.C.R. 1630, Nov. 27.—A declaration of the con- VII., 1. 592. ference with the Merchants of Bristol concerning the yielding to a yearly composition Capt. H. G. St. John for the service of his Ma<sup>ties</sup> House with spices. Mildmay, R.N. The Council agree that the city of Bristol shall be free from the charge of supplying the King and Queen with grocerie ware so long as either of them should be within 20 miles of Bristol "and the Bath"; and that Purveyance should extend "onlie to sweete oyles, namelie those of Zante, Cande and Petcasse"; but refuse the composition offered by the merchants. The merchants who trade in those kinds of grocery wares in the cittie are not more than three score.

G 15

*Archives of Town of Galway.*

H.M.C.R. Galway, the twenty-third day of Aprill, 1632. Coram Galfride Martin, Maiore villa, X., v. 478. Galwey et sociis suis.

G 16

After our hartie commendaciones: You may remember with how much importunitie you sollicited us

by several letters to restreine the exportacione of corne from that porte (of Galway) pretending an extraordinary dearth and scarcitie of graine in those partes, and albeite wee found reason to doubt (as by our letters we signified to you) that your request in that particular was accompanied with some secundarie respectes not then made known unto us, yet, in respect of the specious pretences you made, wee did incline to your request, being unwilling to deny ainething that might conduce to the publicque good. Since which time wee have received certificate from divers of the principale gentlemen of the county of Galwey, affirming that there is plenty of corne there and that a Bristoll-bond barrell of wheat is usually sould for ixs. iiiid. in the markets in that county, and that ther is no apparent danger of any dearth there.

**G 17.** **H.M.C.R.** **178.** April 14.—Draft of an Act for  
**VIII., i. 123.** making of an inland passage for barges and  
 House other vessels from Bristol and elsewhere to  
 of Lords London, and other rivers and watercourses to  
 Calendar, be brought to fall into the same, and otherwise  
 1668. to London.

(Read 1 this day. No further proceeding.)

**L.I., xii. 222.**

Sir JOHN STAFFORD to Sir ROBERT CECIL.

**H 1.** **H.M.C.R.** **1601.**—Begs Cecil's letters to the Sheriffs **Marquis of** of Bristol, and to Mr. Bosdon, late deputy of **Salisbury,** the late Earl of Pembroke of the Castle of **XI., 565.** Bristol, requiring that a view of the castle be taken concerning the waste, and all such things as shall be left in Stafford's charge: that Bosdon deliver to him present possession of the Castle with the rents due: and that the Sheriffs make present payment of his halfyear's fee for keeping the Castle, due at Lady Day last, by her Majesty's grant to him before the Feast of Annunciation, and since the death of the late Earl of Pembroke.

Unsigned. Undated. Endorsed by Cecil's Secretary :  
 "1601. Sir John Stafford his suit to your Honour."

**H.M.C.R.** 1624, June 2.—3rd audience at Theobalds.  
**XII., i. 163.** Notes of business by J. Coke.  
**Coke MSS.** City of Bristol to have the Castle brought to be part of their County.

H 2.

1622-3, Feby. 12.—J. Coke to the Lord Marquis of Buckingham (Draft).

First for the Castle of Bristol. I viewed it this last summer. I marvelled to see it so little regarded. This noble Earl at his coming out of Ireland cast his eye upon it and soon after compounded for the custody, and now sueth for the inheritance; but whether it be fit and safe to put it in so great a subject's hands, how faithful soever, I humbly leave to His Madjesty's wisdom and yours.

Secondly for Kingswood Forest. It containeth 6,000 acres and though much waste hath been made it remaineth full of woods and hath rich coal mines which serve the whole city and happily other metal. Nowsoever it is begged as a matter of no present profit to the Crown, yet it is of great worth, one officer is still ready both to recover and improve it if he may be assisted and may prevail as easily for the King as this nobleman for himself. The Crown will necessarily grow less both in honour and power as others grow great. Consider this my good Lord, and keep up that by which you stand.

**H.M.C.R.** 1610.—Report on the Coal Mines, Clutton  
**XII., i. 71.** (Somerset).

H 3.

**Coke MSS.** There be now three pits near Widow Blacker's house, the highest about 4 fathoms, the middle 6 fathoms, the lowest 8 fathoms deep. At these depths they cut out their lanes about 4 feet high and broad. They need no great store of timberwork for support. The lane we crept through was a good quoits cast in length, wherein we found but two cross lanes whereby it may appear that the mine is yet but newly entered into. They now work in two pits at once, and have below two or three men and four or five boys and also three men to wind up the coals.

At the end of every lane a man worketh, and there maketh his bench, as they call it, and according to the vent

they make more or fewer benches : The wages allowed to the men is to him that hath most four shillings the week, and to the boys eighteen pence.

Adding for candles, increase of wages for work by night, ropes, sharpening of tools, baskets, &c., the whole week's charge may arise to three pounds. Reckoning 100 horse loads a day at three pence the receipt coming to £7 10s. od. the week, and the net gain is £4 10s. od. of which one-fourth for the tenant and the rest remaineth for the lord. It is said that the works at Timbury are near worn out, and all smiths use the coal of Clutton and none of Timbury.

ALFRED MORRISON, Esq.

H 4.

H.M.C.R. 28 Dec., 1643.—The Journal of the Siege  
IX., ii. 434. of Bristol. Taken in upon Wednesday, July  
26, 1643, By His Highnesse Prince Rupert.

K 1.

H.M.C.R. Order for the purchase of 100 quarters of  
X., iv., rye at Bristol, for the relief of the inhabitants  
f. 28, p. 427. of Bridgnorth, in view of the great dearth of  
corn and other sorts of grain.—February 13,  
39 Elizabeth.

K 2.

H.M.C.R. 1669.—An account of what moneys re-  
Captain turned from several places in the country and  
Stewart's paid into the chamber of London for releife of  
MSS., 114. the Poore visited with the Plague in London.  
It appears from this document that from twenty-four  
districts, including the towns of Taunton (£155), Bristol  
 (£205 8s.), Wakefield (£59), Exeter (£222), Manchester  
 (£80), Chester (£140), Preston (£60), Warrington (£70),  
 and Plymouth (£69 9s.), the sum of £1,258 15s. 2½d. was  
 collected.

1773, Nov. 5, Bristol. Rev. GEORGE CATCOTT to  
CHARLEMONT.

L 1.

H.M.C.R. A long letter giving his reasons for  
XII., x. 315. doubting the authenticity of Chatterton's  
Rowley poems.

FRANCIS WOODWARD to CHARLEMONT.—Thomas Chatterton.

L 2.

**H.M.C.R.** i.—1778, 21 July, Bristol Wells.—“ As XII., x. 340. Mr. Warton and the editor himself have not only decided against poor Rowley, but declare the poem to be the work of Chatterton only, it may be some amusement to your lordship to have an exact account of his life, and in what manner his life was filled. These minutes are strictly true, and were communicated to me by Dr. Glynn, of Cambridge, who came to Bristol on purpose to investigate this matter, and has bestowed indefatigable pains in collecting evidences of every kind. The Dean of Exeter (Jeremiah Milles, president of society of antiquaries, London) has been here on the same errand—with (as I believe) an intent to take a very active part in the defence of our bard. ‘ Warton’s criticism makes no impression on the minds of the people here abouts. It is a wretched performance, and proves nothing but that he did not himself understand in the least degree the subject in which he so peremptorily decides. I make no doubt, but this will be fully proved—and it will unquestionably discredit the other parts of his work.’ ”

ii.—“ Thomas Chatterton, the younger, was born Nov. 20, 1752; christened Jan. 1st, 1753.

“ In his early years he had no instruction but from a Mr. Love, who succeeded old Chatterton, as master of the charity school of St. Mary Redcliff. He was admitted into Colston’s Bluecoat school (where nothing is taught but writing and accounts) Aug. 3rd, 1760. The school hours are in summer—mornings 7 till 12; afternoons from 1 till 5. In the winter—8 till 12 mornings; afternoons 1 till 4. Bedtime 8 in the evening all the year round. Allowed to be out of school, Saturdays and Saints’ Days, in the afternoon from 1 till 7 in the evening. Never on Sundays, which whole day is spent in publick and private religious exercises.

“ He left this school Aug. 1st, 1767, and went into Mr. Lambert, the attorney’s office, immediately. The office hours are from 7 in the morning till 8 in the evening. He continued in Mr. Lambert’s till April, 1770,—when he went to London, and died there Aug. 22nd following. In

this short period he was engaged to write in several magazines, &c., as appears from his letters to his sister, now extant.

“ He was a posthumous child, and the few books his father had, were sold immediately upon his death. The two booksellers from whom he borrowed books, during his stay with Lambert, declare he never had any but plays and romances.

“ When he brought the MS. first to Mr. Barret, (at fifteen years of age) he actually could not read them and Mr. Barret assisted him in explaining the old writing.

“ He did not know who Sir C. Bawdin and Sir T. Gorges were, but asked Mr. Barret if he had ever heard of any such people.

“ The will which proves the connection between Mr. Cannynge and Sir T. Gorges, is to be found only in the Commons or in the chamber of Bristol, which it was not in the power of a poor charity boy of 15 years old without friends or connections to have come at.

“ Mrs. Chatterton told Dr. Glynn,—that her husband had parchments from his uncle, who was sexton of Redcliff Church, that he kept them locked up in a cupboard in the school-room. That upon his death she removed them to her house. That her son, when he discovered them, enquired from whence his father got them, and on being told, he was continually (when he had leisure) searching in the chest where he actually found some still remaining which he gave to Mr. Barret, as Mr. Barret informed Dr. Glynn.

“ Young Chatterton’s sister and several of his acquaintance attest their having seen these MSS. in his possession, when he was with Mr. Lambert, and that they had likewise seen him copying them in Mr. Lambert’s office.

“ Chatterton, when he went to London, left behind him at Mr. Lambert’s—two MS. books, in one of which there is this extraordinary memorandum :—‘ Plays were not so irregular in this age (Rowley’s) as we imagine, as will be seen when I have leisure to copy some of Rowley’s and one of John Stowe’s.’

